samples lifted by the present East Zone Team and West Zone Team upto 15.2. 1992 after the remedial measures taken by the Department of Prevention Food Adulteration are as under:—

East Zone — 46

West Zone — Nil

(b) There were exigencies requiring the services of the Sub-Divisional Magistrates and other Executive Magistrates on other Official assignments due to which sample collections on Prevention of Food Adulteration side was temporarily reduced.

(c) The assignment of Local Health Authorities is done on administrative considerations from time to time and no condition can be stipulated for future postings.

Hospital beds in the country

967. SHRI RAMCHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hospital/Nursing home and beds available per lakh population State Union territory-wise breakup; and

(b) what steps are being taken to improve the bed position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) A statement showing the number of Hospital/Nursing Homes etc. and beds available per lakh of population in various States/Uts is enclosed. [*See Appendix* CLXIII, Annexure No. 24]

(b) Health being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments to take steps to improve bed position in their States. 205 beds have been added during the 7th Plan period in various Government Hospitals in Delhi. There is a proposal to set up six 100-bedded and one 500 bedded hospital in Delhi.

Homoeopathy treatment for AIDS

968. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy has achieved a break through in the treatment of persons infected with HIV (Human Immuno Deficiency Virus) and AIDS;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce the use of Homoeopathy in the treatment control and management of HIV infections in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c) According to a recent report submitted by Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, 129 HIV infected persons were given Homoeopathic medicine in Bombay. The report claims that 12 out of these, 129 patients have become non reactive to Elisa test after the treatment.

But, from the report, it has been observed that no Randomised Controlled Trial Method was followed and also the criteria for sero-positivity before and after the trial was different.

The question of introducing Homoeopathy medicine for treatment of HIV infected person will arise only after the efficacy of this medicine is established.

Constitution of high powered committee for medical staff

969. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had constituted of high powered committee to look into the pay scales, allowances and promotional avenues of Scientists working in the Central Councils for Research in Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy;